

SENATE WATCH

A summary of today's Senate actions; published daily when the Senate is in session.

7/16/03

CONFERENCE REPORTS

SB 279 (Johnson)

History, Arts, and Libraries budget

• The Senate adopted the Conference Report to SB 279 [RC 379: 30 yes, 7 no]. Immediate Effect was given to the Report.

SB 285 (Johnson)

Career Development / Michigan Strategic Fund

• The Senate adopted the Conference Report to SB 285 [RC 396: 36 yes, 0 no]. Immediate Effect was given to the Report.

HB 4388 (Shulman)

Community College budget

• The Senate adopted the Conference Report to HB 4388 [RC 383: 37 yes, 0 no]. Immediate Effect was given to the Report.

HB 4390 (Shulman)

Dept. of Corrections budget

• The Senate adopted the Conference Report to HB 4390 [RC 381: 37 yes, 0 no]. Immediate Effect was given to the Report.

HB 4391 (Shulman)

Dept. of Education budget

• The Senate adopted the Conference Report to HB 4391 [RC 382: 37 yes, 0 no]. Immediate Effect was given to the Report.

HB 4392 (Shulman)

DCH budget

• The Senate adopted the Conference Report to HB 4392 [RC 394: 37 yes, 0 no]. Immediate Effect was given to the Report.

HB 4393 (Shulman)

DEQ budget

• The Senate adopted the Conference Report to HB 4393 [RC 392: 37 yes, 0 no]. Immediate Effect was given to the Report.

HB 4396 (Shulman)

Higher Education budget

• The Senate adopted the Conference Report to HB 4396 [RC 385: 37 yes, 0 no]. Immediate Effect was given to the Report.

HB 4400 (Shulman)

Dept. of Natural Resources budget

• The Senate adopted the Conference Report to HB 4400 [RC 384: 37 yes, 0 no]. Immediate Effect was given to the Report.

HB 4401 (Shulman)

School Aid budget

• The Senate adopted the Conference Report to HB 4401 [RC 395: 36 yes, 0 no]. Immediate Effect was given to the Report.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

SB 391 (SCOTT)

This bill would increase the registration and transfer fees for securities brokers, dealers, agents, and investment advisors in Michigan and generate approximately \$4.4 million for the CIS budget.

• The Senate concurred with the House changes to SB 391 [RC 378: 32 yes, 1 no (Sanborn)].

SB 399 (EMERSON)

This bill would amend the General Sales Tax Act to reduce the percentage of sales tax related to the sale of motor vehicles, fuel, and parts that is deposited into the Comprehensive Transportation fund from 27.9% to 24% for 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 and returns the rate to 27.9% in 2005-2006. In addition, it allows the transfer of the \$18M appropriated in the senate-passed version (SB 265) of the transportation budget.

• The Senate concurred with the House changes to SB 399 [RC 398: 34 yes, 10 no]. Immediate Effect was given to the bill.

SB 464 (Allen)

Mackinac Bridge bill

• The Senate concurred with the House changes to SB 464 [RC 393: 25 yes, 10 no]. Immediate Effect was given to the bill.

SB 466 (BARCIA)

Mackinac Bridge bill

• The Senate concurred with the House changes to SB 466 [RC 394: 25 yes, 10 no]. Immediate Effect was given to the bill.

SB 537 (BRATER)

State Park fee increase

• The Senate concurred with the House changes to SB 537 [RC 399: 35 yes, 0 no; RC 400: 36 yes, 0 no]. Immediate Effect was given to the bill. Hammerstrom moved to reconsider passage.

HB 4748 (LIPSEY)

Judicial fee increase

• The Senate concurred with the House changes to SB 466 [RC 397: 33 yes, 1 no].

FINAL PASSAGE

SB 99 (JACOBS)

Organ donation: leave time for donating an organ

- Committee 1 (S-3) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 99 was moved to 3rd Reading.
- SB 99 passed [RC 386: 37 yes, 0 no].

HB 4218 (Middaugh)

The bill would amend the School Code to lift the prohibition against pupils carrying pocket pagers, electronic communication devices, or other personal communication devices in school, beginning with the 2004-2005 school year.

Support: The Michigan Federation of Teachers & School Related Personnel, Small Rural Schools, Oakland Schools, the Michigan Association of School Boards, the Michigan Association of School Principals, and the Michigan Association of School Administrators.

• HB 4218 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

• HB 4218 passed with IE [RC 387: 37 yes, 0 no].

HB 4146 (Ward)

This bill would allow two or more counties, villages, cities or townships or districts to create a recreational authority. Under current law, only two localities can create such an authority. Essentially, the bill aims to allow more flexibility in the geographic boundaries of recreational authorities. It would allow, for example, such authorities to be organized using school district lines.

Support: Michigan Municipal League.

- Allen 1 (2 amends) was adopted [no RC]. Technical definition of public historic farms.
- Toy 2 (2 amends) was adopted [no RC]. Technical: defines recreational authority.
- Allen 3 (2 amends) was adopted [no RC]. Technical definition of public historic farms.
- HB 4146 passed with IE [RC 380: 38 yes, 0 no]. Immediate Effect was given to the bill.

HB 4627 (Casperson) HB 4630 (BROWN) HB 4631 (Shackleton)

<u>House Bill 4627</u> is the main bill of the Mackinac Bridge package. It would provide total debt forgiveness to the Mackinac Bridge Authority of \$65.55 million. The bill also would delete a requirement that, once the cost of the bridge is fully paid and the State Transportation Department reimbursed for any sums paid, the bridge be maintained and operated by the State as a free bridge. Under the bill, the Authority would continue to maintain and operate the bridge, and could continue to charge tolls, fees, rates, and charges for use of the bridge.

- Committee 1 (1 amend) was adopted [no RC]. Technical change.
- HB 4627 was moved to 3rd Reading.
- HB 4627 passed with IE [RC 389: 24 yes, 13 no (Dems)].

<u>House Bill 4630</u> allows "authorized emergency vehicles" to cross the bridge without paying a toll if they are responding to an emergency situation. It will also create a toll exemption for the authority's own vehicles. Currently, both emergency vehicles and the authority's vehicles are charged tolls to cross the bridge.

- HB 4630 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.
- HB 4630 passed with IE [RC 390: 37 yes, 0 no].

<u>House Bill 4631</u> would earmark \$5.9 million in the State Trunkline Fund for the Mackinac Bridge Authority, to be used for capital improvements.

- HB 4631 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.
- HB 4631 passed with IE [RC 391: 24 yes, 13 no].

HB 4866 (Nofs)

As part of the Governor's Executive budget recommendation, refinancing of school district school bond loan fund debt is expected to free up \$100 million of General Fund that will be directed to the School Aid Fund. This bill amends the State Loans to School Districts act to allow loan repayments received from school districts in excess of the amount needed to repay the loans to be deposited into the School Aid Fund.

• HB 4866 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

• HB 4866 passed with IE [RC 388: 37 yes, 0 no].

THIRD READING

SB 334 (SWITALSKI)

The bill would provide that money returned from the Michigan Transportation Fund for expenditure on the local street system could be spent without regard to the amount of local revenue spent, if the money were to be spent on preservation.

- Committee 1 (S-3) was adopted [no RC].
- Switalski 1A was adopted [no RC].
- SB 334 was moved to 3rd Reading.